



Kevin Mayer  
07/16/98 02:47 PM

To: Paula Bruin/R9/USEPA/US@EPA  
cc: Catherine McCracken/R9/USEPA/US@EPA  
Subject: Perchlorate and the Media

Paula - I am sending you this message from a young and enthusiastic researcher in EPA's ORD lab to show you how important it is for us to manage our media contacts. Since I know this colorful fellow, I cringe at the thought of him talking to media in Phoenix to tell them about the threat of perchlorate. Earlier this month, Region 9 (Karl Banks) sent results of sampling of the Colorado River that showed 9.5 ppb upriver of the CAP intake and 8.9 ppb (essentially the same concentration) below the intake. This means that AZ is indeed drinking perchlorate at about the same concentration as Los Angeles. The newspapers have not picked up on this, to my knowledge, but I think they will be interested when it is brought to their attention. EPA is still working on a risk assessment to establish a revised reference dose (which is currently a range of 4 to 18 ppb in drinking water), and expects to have a revised concentration for health protection by October.

There are no breakthroughs in treatment technology (although we know quite a lot about what works, but not about how to treat it inexpensively). There are questions about uptake into irrigated crops and effects on other ecological receptors. Perchlorate has been found in groundwater in Ca, NV, Utah, Texas, Arkansas and New York, and is likely to be found in many (if not most) of the US when they get around to looking for it. The tribes are very concerned.

The good news is that a bunch of experts (the Interagency Perchlorate Steering Committee) is planning to do a one-day Stakeholders' Forum to present information, answer questions and discuss concerns and priorities of the public. The Inter Tribal Council of AZ and ADEG have invited us to come to Phoenix on August 27 (which is not an ideal weather time, I know).

So we have some news for Phoenix (they are drinking low levels of perchlorate) and an upcoming information source for Phoenix. Let me know if you can counsel us (and possibly divert enthusiastic researchers from morning talk shows).

Thank you

Keviin

----- Forwarded by Kevin Mayer/R9/USEPA/US on 07/16/98 02:21 PM -----

Edward Urbansky@X400 on 07/16/98 10:16:10 AM



To: Kevin Mayer@EPA, Wayne Praskins@EPA,  
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cc:

Subject: August meetings

I cannot attend the meetings in August as I will be at the American Chemical Society meeting in Boston during that time period. If you are interested, I could give a shortened form of my talk by video. That is, we could make a videotape here that hits the highlights, and I would have hand-outs of the full talk available for distribution. Otherwise, it will be up to the rest of you to work out how to handle it. Because treatment and analysis are so closely entwined, I would favor one introduction that deals with both topics and covers perchlorate chemistry and one speaker who specifically addresses analysis and one who specifically addresses treatment and remediation.

I hope that this time we plan to have ads in local newspapers, even if we have to pay for them. Also, we should try get free public service announcements on local radios. When I was at Purdue, I used to do live on-air spots with a Lafayette station all the time. Lots of morning shows will do 5-minute live call-in interviews. That will reach a lot of the people most interested while driving to work in the morning. If you agree that this is worthwhile, I will contact stations in Phoenix and Salt Lake City to see if they are open to the idea. --Ed

>>> ANNIE JARABEK 07/16/98 04:51pm >>>

Dear Subcommittee chairs,

The topic of the recent Executive committee meeting was to plan for the upcoming 1-day Stakeholder forums in (1) Salt Lake City, UT and (2) Phoenix, AZ that are scheduled "back-to-back" the week of August 24th.

Please see the attached for the most recent agenda and a list of "to do" items. The "speaker(s) to be determined" parts are where we need your help! Note that the Excomm is slated to confirm all speakers by next Friday, July 24th. As you can appreciate from the ambitious agenda that essentially condenses the Henderson meeting into a 1-day roadshow, we would not expect more than 2 speakers for each topic.

Please work within each of your committees to suggest available speakers so that we can contact and confirm commitment by the end of next week. Comments on the proposed agenda are also welcome.

Please E-mail all of the Excomm (Lt. Col. Dan Rogers, Peter Grevatt, Mike Osinski, Kevin Mayer and myself) or I can be the voicemail contact as needed should there be questions or if you want to discuss options.

Thanks in advance for your help. Obviously the Henderson meeting was such a success that there is a demand for additional presentation. Also, be aware that speaker notes (i.e., copy of slide presentation) is due by 8/14 to Dan.

Annie.